

LABOR CLARION

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Raise Pay, End Wage Freeze—Demand by Meany

Warning that the Little Steel formula has become "an economic thumbscrew to torment the working people of America and their families," Secretary-Treasurer George Meany of the American Federation of Labor called upon the Government for immediate action to bring wages back into balance with higher costs of living.

Opening the American Federation of Labor's case at a three-day public hearing in Washington, last week, before a special panel of the National War Labor Board, Meany presented incontrovertible facts and figures proving that the cost of living has risen far more than 15 per cent since January 1941, "even on the basis of the sawdust chart of the Bureau of Labor Statistics."

Program for Panel Hearing

The A.F.L. official, a member of the War Labor Board himself, was the first witness at the hearing. Representatives of the American Federation of Labor from various parts of the country also were scheduled to follow him with detailed reports on wage inequities in their areas.

Spokesmen for a number of A.F.L. unions also were to present evidence with regard to wage injustices under the Little Steel formula in various specific trades. The panel will decide whether to recommend further action by the War Labor Board. Members of the panel include Ralph T. Seward, representing the public; Charles R. Hook, Jr., representing industry, and Edward J. Volz, president of the Photo-Engravers' International Union, representing labor.

Little or nothing pertaining to the hearings have been carried in the daily press, and only the presentation made by Secretary Meany has become available. It is quite lengthy and a most able and searching argument. He reviews the entire history of the attempt at stabilization of wages and prices and

points out that the Government had repeatedly pledged itself to maintain pre-war living standards. These promises have been broken by the failure of the economic stabilization program, he said, and as a consequence wage earners have suffered a loss in real income arising from the rigid application of the Little Steel formula.

Factual Basis of Argument

In the course of his argument, Meany uses three sub-titles of "Facts," and expands upon each of them. These Facts are: No. 1—"Maintenance of Peacetime Standards of Living Was Accepted As Compatible with the Fight Against Inflation." No. 2—"That Stabilization of the Cost of Living Has Been Asserted and Even Assumed As a Fact." No. 3—"The National Economic Policy, As a Whole, Has Not Been Realized." No. 4—"President Roosevelt Has the Power to Change the Little Steel Formula."

In reference to No. 4, Secretary Meany in his argument went on to say:

Power of President

"The American Federation of Labor states that the inequity which has arisen from the application of the Little Steel formula should be eliminated immediately by President Roosevelt.

"We believe that President Roosevelt has the power to correct this wrong. The Act of October 2, 1942, clearly bestowed upon the President the power to make this necessary change. Specifically in Section 1 of the Act is the following language:

"The President may, except as otherwise provided in this Act, thereafter provide for making adjustments with respect to prices, wages and salaries, to the extent he finds necessary to aid in the effective prosecution of the war or to correct gross inequities."

"There is nothing in the Act which restricts this power over changing wages to eliminate inequities.

Supplemental Action

"This clear authorization in the law has been supplemented by the actions of the President himself. In Executive Order No. 9250 he stated the bases of the wage stabilization program which the War Labor Board was to follow. In Executive Order No. 9328 he drastically altered the wage powers of the Board. The May 12 'clarification' or policy directive—issued by Director Byrnes—introduced an entirely new method of eliminating inequities. In effect, therefore, the President has been responsible for the wage policy of the Board within the broad outlines of the Act of October 2, 1942.

"The American Federation of Labor demands a more drastic than a modification of the Little Steel formula over which the President has control in his Executive Order No. 9250."

Secretary Meany then summarized the position of the A.F.L. with respect to wage stabilization which had been set forth in his argument before the panel (this summary is given on another page of this issue of the LABOR CLARION), and in conclusion said:

Increased Living-Cost

"Does anyone doubt that living costs have risen far above 15 per cent since January 1941? The logic and justice of our demand for realistic modification of the Little Steel formula could be summarized in this single declaration: The cost of living has risen far more than 15 per cent since January 1941 even on the basis of the sawdust chart of the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"There can be no denying this. Even B.L.S. admitted. (Continued on Page Two)

Proposed Initiative Petition Endangers Nation's War Effort

From Headquarters of the California State Federation of Labor

Failing to attract any support from important employers in other portions of the State, the backers of the mislabeled petition, "The Right To Employment," are concentrating their efforts in Los Angeles to obtain the number of signatures they will need to qualify the measure for the ballot in the November election.

While they grind away at their campaign of unimaginative misrepresentation, the irresponsible gamblers with our war effort and the unity of our home front are scraping hard at the bottom of the manpower barrel in their frenzy to obtain circulators for their petitions. The "skid-row" in Los Angeles, for instance, has been visited with methodical regularity by the petition-pushers in search of signature solicitors.

That the present efforts of government and industry to hunt down every salvagable ounce of manpower energy for utilization in behalf of our deadly struggle against the enemy, should face competition from bitter, diehard exponents of class warfare is in itself a sad state of affairs. To take up the time and energy of any individual when such time and energy can be put to so much more important a use is nothing short of a criminal waste of manpower.

Assuming that the issue of the "open shop" will

still have to be fought out with these uncompromising enemies of labor, surely it could have waited until the main threat to our country has been disposed of. Even if it were true, as these hack speculators of human thought would have us believe, that the boys in the armed forces would favor such an abominable anti-democratic measure as this petition calls for, then why can they not back up such speculation with sufficient confidence to wait until the boys return from the fighting fronts and are in a position to cast their own votes on the issue?

That the anti-victory petitioners do not care to face the question this squarely is the only thing that can be adduced by their mad scramble to inject this splitting and disruptive issue at a time when the most critical and decisive stages are looming in our global conflagration.

No one in his right mind and genuinely sincere can deny that any matter that is apt to cause bitterness and a serious cleavage of opinion is certain to have a bad effect on the home front morale. It is bound to weaken that front, and could become a grave threat to our entire war effort.

It is, therefore, not an exaggeration to point out that if any such issue is postponable, then to bring it up at this time is sheer and rank criminal obstruction as far as this country's war aims are concerned.

Little imagination is required to visualize what can happen if this campaign to spread this unity-splitting issue into other states is successful. Yet it is true that the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association are committed to such dastardly policy.

If for no other reasons than those cited above, labor is completely justified in questioning the true motives and the sincerity of these petition initiators. Labor has a full right to appeal to the citizens of California to support it in condemning such a move at a time like this. And if, as every responsible person will agree, this issue will have ample opportunity to be voted on at a later time when every ounce of energy is no longer devoted to the single purpose of winning the war, why then is it necessary, or in order, to project it at this critical time?

This consideration aversadows every other phase of this campaign. And there can be no reason for any citizen, be he a believer in the open shop or not, to keep from joining with every public-spirited person in refusing to sign these petitions. The refusal to sign does not commit any person one way or another; it merely demonstrates that every patriotic citizen places our war with the main enemy above all other considerations, and especially above a fruitless and deadly internal fight that has no place on the agenda of our pressing needs at this time.

Raise Pay, End Wage Freeze, Meany Demands

(Continued from Page One)

mits it. They admit living costs have risen 23.4 per cent during the period for which the Little Steel formula allows only a 15 per cent increase in wage rates. We say the costs are up at least 43 per cent, and the Department of Agriculture agrees that as far as farmers are concerned, that figure is about right.

About the "Wage Raises"

"I am tired of reading reports that wages have risen a lot more than 15 per cent because a lot of workers are wearing themselves out through longer hours at harder work producing more per hour than they ever thought possible. Of course, some of them are earning more. They would be asking welfare aid if they weren't. They couldn't make both ends meet on a 15 per cent raise to meet even the B.L.S. dream of a mere 23.4 per cent rise.

"Let me remind you again that the whole stabilization program and the Little Steel formula itself were based on making wage rates stay even with living costs. The Little Steel formula was concocted to prevent inflation. It has had exactly the opposite effect. It has submerged wages further and further below the constantly mounting rise in prices.

An Ignored Fact

"The Little Steel formula ignores the depreciation in quality which has accompanied increases in costs. Articles of food and clothing, housing facilities, and transportation have deteriorated in quality so that the worker gets less in quality while he pays more and ever more for the same quantity.

"Our Government has completely failed to give the workers of our nation the benefits of real social insurance which other nations immediately increased when war broke out. That is one reason for all the demands for severance pay, sick leave, group insurance plans and other such costly substitutes which some unions are demanding and which some companies are willing to pay since the Government is paying the bill plus a surcharge for commercial handling and profits. A far more realistic approach to this

problem would be an honest aboveboard pay raise to meet the higher cost of living.

An Important Point

"Let me make one more important point. Wage freezing has been accompanied by job freezing. The combination of the two serves to destroy the traditional incentives of the American worker at a time when the urgent need of the war is for more and more production. When a worker sees his pay envelope frozen while the costs of living go higher and higher and he is forbidden to take another job where he could earn more for his family, this condition causes bitterness and a deep, dangerous sense of injustice.

Workers Worthy of Their Hire

"Let's be honest with ourselves as a nation. Our workers are soldiers of industry, who have accomplished a volume and quality of production which assures eventual defeat of the enemy. They are workers worthy of their hire. They are the citizens from whose homes have come fighting men for our nation. They are the core of the democracy for which we fight and upon whom the future of our democracy depends. They must not be bled white now and junked after the war. The strength of our country and the maintenance of our nation depend in great part upon fulfilling our pledges that our economy will be stabilized. Time is running short. If we are to fulfill our pledge, we must liquidate our earlier hopes of rolling back prices and, instead, proceed to bring wages in balance with higher costs of living."

Warren Asks Reallocation Of Receipts from Sales Tax

Governor Warren this week asked a joint meeting of the legislative budget committee and Senate and Assembly committees on post-war problems to determine needed state post-war construction projects in addition to some \$25,000,000 dollars in projects for which plans already have been prepared.

A total of \$62,000,000—yes, sir! count 'em; \$62,000,000—will be available by June 30, 1945, from sales tax collections earmarked for post-war projects, according to present estimates, instead of \$42,000,000 estimated during the last regular legislative session, Governor Warren said.

PRESERVATION OF RIGHTS

In a question-and-answer discussion of big domestic issues, part of a radio speech, U. S. Senator Wheeler of Montana said that capital and labor "must work for the benefit of each other and in that way serve the public good." Continuing, he warned: "But organized labor cannot successfully preserve its rights by building up the power of the executive arm of the Government here any more than it was able to do in Germany. When such a step is worked to its logical conclusion—in the end you have political dictatorship and the enslavement of labor."

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Urges Over-All Agency To Control Reconversion

Need of an over-all agency to direct the conversion of American industry to peacetime operations was stressed by Matthew Woll, chairman of the American Federation of Labor post-war planning committee.

Woll testified before the Senate military affairs sub-committee, which is considering legislation for a reconversion program.

Opening the hearing, Senator George, chairman of the Senate special post-war committee, predicted that "reasonably full employment" after the war will require jobs for 54,000,000 persons, 4,000,000 more than are at work now.

Says Plans Must Be Ready

"The creation and filling of these jobs must not have to wait upon the formulation of plans. Plans must be ready when hostilities cease," George said.

"It would be unworkable to have two offices—one for war mobilization and one for war demobilization—with conflicting jurisdiction," Woll told the committee. "The fusing of these agencies into one seems to us a reasonable solution."

The A.F.L. spokesman expressed a preference for the Kilgore bill, one of the two bills before the sub-committee. One of the chief differences between that and the George-Murray bill, the other measure, is that it contains a provision providing for re-training and re-employment of workers.

Scores Conflicting Agencies

Woll told the sub-committee "the manpower muddle we are in now is due in large part to the fact that about thirty government agencies are responsible in one way or another for labor matters. Labor, industry and government agencies are in a state of frustration with all these overlapping jurisdictions in this time of emergency."

Woll agreed with the objectives of the George-Murray bill for post-war reconversion, but said those objectives are implemented only "as far as property protection is concerned." He approved the general policies outlined in the Kilgore bill "both as far as industry is concerned and as far as discharged servicemen and workers are concerned."

Emergency unemployment compensation payments would be the most equitable method of providing temporarily for discharged workers during the transition period, Woll suggested.

Ibanez Answers Browder's Criticism

Bernardo Ibanez, general secretary of the Chilean Confederation of Labor, in a letter to friends in this country, charged that Earl Browder, Communist leader, was guilty of a "shameful lie" in attempting to link him with Fascist forces in South America.

Ibanez, who came to this country recently as the guest of the A.F.L. and C.I.O., said in his letter:

"I have been a humble but consistent anti-Fascist fighter from the time Fascism and Nazism first appeared in the world as a reactionary and anti-labor menace. I shall continue to remain anti-Nazi, as I have always been, before June 22, 1941, and after, while I have the strength to fight for social progress and human freedom. Mr. Browder is surely not the person to give me lessons in this respect."



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Congressional Report on C.I.O. Political Committee

The C.I.O. Political Action Committee is Communist-inspired and Communist-directed, the House committee on un-American activities charged in an official report to Congress.

Simultaneously, "right wing" labor and liberal factions withdrew from the American Labor party, New York branch of the C.I.O. Political Action Committee, charging "Earl Browder [communist leader] has captured the American Labor party."

The report submitted to Congress by the investigating committee headed by Representative Dies of Texas listed thirty-four leaders of the C.I.O. Political Action Committee whose records, the report said, proved they are avowed Reds or followers of the Communist Party "line." (Some of the names listed appear in another column of this issue.)

Failure Under Party Name

"They will attempt—indeed are already attempting," said the report, "to do by stealth and subterfuge through the C.I.O. Political Action Committee what they have failed to do when functioning as a political party under their own name." In the findings the Dies committee declared:

"The Special Committee on Un-American Activities does not challenge for one moment the right of organized labor to engage in political campaigns within the limits of the statutes which govern such activity.

"The irresponsible and untruthful charge that we would deny to organized labor any of its lawful rights does not deter us from exposing the subversive activities of the Communists who have, in line with their current strategy, decided to work through the C.I.O. Political Action Committee."

All existing units of the C.I.O. are to be utilized to the full, the report charges, in carrying out the political objectives of the political action committee in the 1944 election.

Assume Important Roles

"Whether or not Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman knowingly adopted a program of action for the 1944 elections which had been set forth by prominent Communist party leaders and individuals," another paragraph declares, "the record shows beyond the possibility of any dispute that well-known Communists immediately assumed important roles in the regional, state and local activities of the C.I.O. Political Action Committee.

"Murray and Hillman may assert that it was mere coincidence that their organization so completely conformed to one whose pattern had been drawn by the Communists. They cannot deny the presence of well-known Communists in the ranks of the Political Action Committee as it has been functioning from coast to coast during the past seven or eight months."

In withdrawing from the American Labor party, the "right wing" faction declared that the New York State primary election returns "leave no doubt that Mr. Earl Browder has captured the party."

It is understood that strong support, both morally and financially, has in the past been given to the American Labor party by the membership of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, of which David Dubinsky is president. However, in the current issue of *Justice*, published by the I.L.G.W.U., a lengthy editorial bearing the heading, "The A.L.P.

Passes On," in its opening paragraph states as follows:

"The Communists, in alliance with Sidney Hillman, have 'taken over' the American Labor Party in this week's New York primary election.

"The Communist raid on the A.L.P. marks the failures of another experiment in labor political action. The greater is the pity because the Labor Party held out for several years substantial promise as a vigorous liberal force which, if it could not win elections by its own numerical strength, could, and did, wield effective liberal and progressive influence as a balance of political power. The A.L.P. fell prey to Communist infiltration and perfidy partly because it did not, from the start, use sufficient vigilance and vigor to keep Communist fifth columnists and their stooges from entering the party portals."

"GENTILE LEAGUE" FACES SUIT

When the Wisconsin Supreme Court refused to take jurisdiction in a suit to revoke the charter of the Gentile League, Inc., of Watertown, but gave the attorney general permission to start suit, he acted promptly. He began action in the Dane County circuit court, charging that the organization's incorporation papers were improperly acknowledged and that it was "anti-Semitic" and consequently detrimental to the welfare and interests of the people.

Industry Leaders Support Labor's Stand On O.P.A

The Senate banking committee has been listening to witnesses and has examined proposed amendments while conducting hearings on the proposed continuation of the Price Control Act and the O.P.A.

Testifying before the Senate banking committee recently was Eric Johnston, president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, which represents leading American industries, who insisted that great danger of inflation faced the country should the O.P.A. controls be removed. Similarly, A. L. Wiggins, president of the American Bankers' Association, favored the continuation of the O.P.A. with its present powers because its controls held back the doors of inflation.

The current news bulletin of the California State Federation of Labor comments that while organized labor has many complaints to register against the shortcomings of the O.P.A.—lack of strict enforcement policy, failure to "hold the line" on the cost of living, and black markets—yet in spite of these faults labor knows that without O.P.A. present conditions undeniably would be worse, and declares that labor organizations are consistent in calling upon Congress to extend the life of the O.P.A. without further crippling amendments.

Labor is glad also, the Federation bulletin states, to note that the two prominent industrialists above mention and the organizations they represent have publicly indicated that union labor's stand on this subject is correct.

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A.F.L. to Represent U. S. Workers in I.L.O Meeting

The American Federation of Labor has won its fight to represent U. S. wage earners at the conference of the International Labor Organization opening at Philadelphia April 20.

Victory came when Philip Murray, president of the C.I.O. announced withdrawal of the claim for a seat in the conference, at which the various nations will be represented by delegations consisting of representatives of labor, employers and governments.

Took Emphatic Stand

President Roosevelt had asked the A.F.L. to share representation with the C.I.O. at the Philadelphia conference, with the delegates having half a vote for each organization. The A.F.L. executive council emphatically rejected the request, declaring that the Federation is the representative labor organization of the United States, and pointing out that I.L.O. regulations provide for one delegate from the "representative labor organization of each nation." "To divide the one vote between two labor organizations might mean conflict and disagreement," the council said.

Government's Delegates

Senator Elebrt D. Thomas of Utah and Secretary of Labor Perkins have been appointed the Government delegates, but at this writing President Roosevelt has not named the labor and management representatives.

The list of countries which have officially informed the International Labor Office that they will be represented at the conference reached 26 with the receipt at I.L.O. headquarters of notification from Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti and Uruguay. Approximately 40 countries are expected to be represented.

Tomorrow Is Saturday and . . .

The coming Saturday night, April 15, is the night for putting out boxes of tin cans for the regular monthly collection, San Franciscans are reminded by the salvage-for-victory committee of the San Francisco Civilian War Council.



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FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1944

Establishing a "Foreign Policy"

The radio address of Secretary of State Hull on the nation's foreign policy was interesting, presented by a scholar and clear in expression in certain parts. But it was not altogether enlightening on many phases of the part which it is believed by the Secretary of State that the nation should follow or embark upon.

In the first place, the introduction of "foreign policy" into the conduct and affairs of the United States is to a certain extent an innovation. Of course there always has been a general course in that field, which has been followed, but it has not been laid out in metes and bounds, and was subject to conditions as they arose. Generally it may be said to have been a policy of attending to our own business, with a standing admonition to other powers not to horn in on that domain, and at the same time allowing other nations to follow the same course.

That policy has been a shining light in the world. For this nation it has been a prosperous one and an example to others that has accomplished more than any military victory our arms have ever achieved. It has excited the admiration, and envy, of every country, large and small.

Now we are faced with an agitation, the source of which in many instances is open to wide suspicion, that we have a "mission to perform" and a place to accept in international affairs. It is for weal or woe that the nation must decide the issue. It has numerous ramifications.

Some of our people are willing to wade in up to the neck, while others just want to play along the beaches. Many are confident in their own minds of the nation's strength and influence in the deep waters, others are willing to "take a chance." The thirty unsettled boundaries of European nations, which the Secretary of State mentioned in his address, have no terrors for those seemingly obsessed with the "mission" complex. But others need not be labeled "isolationists" who want to see a few blueprints—even vague ones—of the future. They are as patriotic, as humanitarian and as honest as any citizen of the country, and are entitled to the same hearing which others vociferously claim for themselves and their ideas.

Anyhow, it is disclosed by the Secretary of State that preliminary explorations already have been made in the field of "foreign policy," and the national future as affecting nations other than our own. It has arrived at the point where, according to Mr. Hull, the time is approaching when members of Congress will be called in and given the low-down on what has transpired among the diplomats. All of which would seem to indicate that an "accomplished fact" might be sprung on the people of this and other nations. Then, anyone who protests will be set upon by hatchet men as an enemy to progress.

One can well imagine that a consultative committee

of the Congress could be assembled, well known for their views on foreign affairs, and whose views coincided in the essentials with those who had made the preliminary moves. Agreement could be easily arrived at, and the new policy proclaimed as lily white.

But one may at least doubt the wisdom of having any "committee of Congress" being given the inside facts on anything by the State Department, acting for the Executive Department. Just what is the reason for having the other members of Congress in Washington who are not chosen to sit in with the select committee? Also, where do the people of the nation come in? Why should not the State Department and its diplomats put their plans into writing, send them to the Government Printing Office, and then give everybody a chance to look at the product? However, maybe that's not the way to enter upon a "mission."

Incidentally, in connection with the subject, we wonder whether the American Federation of Labor has thought about trading in its option on a seat at the "peace table," after coming into possession of knowledge that the banquet will be over long before the Federation representatives have started to dress for what was to be a great event. However, all of the above represents merely idle thoughts of the writer and is not intended as expressive of other than an individual meandering.

Speaking in Plain Language

Secretary George Meany of the American Federation of Labor strikes a responsive chord in the minds and hearts of many people in his article on "Freedom of the Air," appearing in the current issue of the *American Federationist*, which article was summarized in last week's issue of the *LABOR CLARION*.

Briefly, the A.F.L. official warns against the giving to other nations freedom to participate in the future international business of air transport originating in the United States, in competition with our own lines. He especially directs attention to the wage standards and working conditions prevalent in other nations and against which United States air lines would suffer a handicap, the same as we have in international water-borne shipping under the "Freedom of the Seas."

Secretary Meany's stand is a cooling breath of "fresh air" amid the desert winds of foreign propaganda of all kinds which are, permissively, being allowed to sweep this country—for it is one kind of wind which can be restrained. There is such a thing as too much "freedom," of various kinds, even in a free nation, and freedom for stealthy propaganda against the economic and the general welfare of this nation is one. In fact there is a bumper crop. It should be dried, frozen or canned and placed in an "ever normal granary" where there is a good prospect for spontaneous combustion and a guard asleep at his post.

The best Chesterfieldian bow (domestically produced) to Secretary Meany on the courage evidenced in his magazine article, and particularly for his declaration therein:

"Who flies airplanes over our country is *our business*. Who makes the airplanes that fly over our country and at what wages these planes are made is also *our business*. Let us in this case decide coolly and calmly for ourselves what we should do in the air transport field of the future to *protect ourselves*. Let us not make such decision on an emotional basis *superinduced by a slogan* that sounds good to us." (Emphasizing of words ours.)

Three rousing cheers for Meany—(and with the abiding hope that, if not this year then next year, we again may have the privilege on the Fourth of July of hearing the Declaration of *Independence* read in the Civic Auditorium and the audience joining in singing "The Star Spangled Banner," with no verses omitted.)

Workers' Wages Frozen —Employers' Profits Soar

From "Labor"

Two statements made during the last week by top-notch government officials illustrate where we are drifting on the "home front."

William H. Davis, chairman of the War Labor Board, before the Senate banking and currency committee, testified with apparent enthusiasm: "The country now has a stable wage policy. Basic hourly wage rates, under that policy, have remained substantially unchanged since October, 1942."

That means, of course, that the worker's basic pay has been substantially "frozen" during the period mentioned.

At about the same time, Admiral Emory Land, chairman of the Maritime Commission—the gentleman who once distinguished himself by suggesting that union organizers might well be shot at sunrise—revealed some extremely interesting figures concerning the profits of those who run shipbuilding yards for Uncle Sam.

According to the admiral, 19 of these shipbuilding companies operate yards built by the government at a cost of \$371,960,113. According to the committee investigator, the companies have invested a total of \$22,879,276. The admiral said those figures were inaccurate and that the total should be \$30,029,275.

Let's accept the admiral's figures. On this modest investment of a little more than \$30,000,000, the companies up to date have received fees totaling \$174,944,051, and there are balances due them which will carry this total to \$228,234,832, or substantially ten times the amount the committee's investigators say the promoters contributed.

Remember, the Public Treasury has not only advanced the money to construct the yards, but has purchased all needed materials and taken care of all other costs, including extremely handsome salaries for the companies' officials.

More than that, some of these companies had contracts for constructing the yards. In other words, they made plenty of profit on building shipyards for themselves.

Members of the committee were disturbed by these fantastic profits, but the admiral saw nothing wrong about them. He described them as a proper "percentage on brains."

The wages of workers—that is, the "percentage on brawn"—are "frozen." The compensation of gentlemen who were fortunate enough to be permitted to build shipyards with government money is permitted to soar to the moon, and is described as "percentage on brains."

If the working man asks for a few extra dollars a week, government officials shout "inflation." When contractors pocket hundreds of millions of dollars—well, we suppose that is "encouraging free enterprise."

WORK OF S. F. WAR CHEST

United Seamen's Service, an organization receiving support from the San Francisco War Chest, now has sixty-one units on six continents providing comfort and assistance for the men who man the ships carrying supplies of war. The War Chest also announces that another of its member organizations, War Prisoners' Aid, shipped 448,170 pounds of recreation materials to war prisoners last year.

MACHINISTS PRESENT SHIP'S BELL

When the new aircraft carrier, U.S.S. Shangri-La, goes into battle against the Japanese to avenge the execution of Army fliers who bombed Tokio after taking off from the famous U.S.S. Hornet, it will carry into battle a ship's bell which was presented by the Portsmouth (Va.) local of the International Association of Machinists. Members of the union helped build the new carrier, which was launched at Norfolk late in February.

Labor Draft: Demands Do Not Appear to Square With the Facts

The April issue of "Labor's Monthly Survey," published by the American Federation of Labor, discusses "Shall Labor Be Drafted?" and produces devastating arguments against the proposals on the subject now pending in Congress. Following are excerpts from the "Survey" article:

On the eve of European invasion, the drive to impose forced labor at home, on the working people of America, has reached a new climax. So strong is the demand of the military to gain control of civilian workers through a labor draft that Administrations out of touch with industry are confused. Yet these demands do not appear to square with the facts.

Our entire employed labor force, including all in farming, industry and the armed forces, needs to increase this year by less than one-sixth the number added last year—only 900,000, compared to 5,800,000 added in 1943, 5,200,000 in 1942 and 4,500,000 in 1941. War industries reached their peak of employment last November and have been reducing work forces since; total Army procurement in 1944 will be slightly less than 1943. Workers who see men and women laid off by the thousand in military "cutbacks" find it hard to see why a draft of labor is necessary.

Difficult Task Faced

Our task this spring—and it is one of the most difficult yet faced—is to replace men drafted out of war plants for military service. Their places must be filled from a manpower pool which contains fewer workers than at any recent time. And if military casualties are high we may have to replace more than 900,000—perhaps even 1,400,000 according to military estimates.

The task is hard. But there are 11,000,000 women not yet in the labor market who have no children under 14; 3,500,000 of them are under 45 years old; and the military is discharging at least 840,000 per year, very many of whom can work in industry. This adds up to some 4,000,000 under 45, and 7,500,000 women over 45. With our country's outstanding success in recruiting manpower by democratic means, must we resort to force now to secure from 900,000 to 1,400,000 out of this reserve?

American workers have never failed to volunteer their services when they know where they are needed. They have proved to the hilt that free labor can out-produce any forced labor in the world. * * *

Military and Civilian Expressions

Must we now destroy the democratic co-operation which has created our miracle of production? Military leaders say "Yes." But do military leaders know what it takes to get out production? The two leading men who have proved their knowledge of production and manpower both say "No": War Production Chief Donald Nelson and War Manpower Chief Paul V. McNutt.

Mr. Nelson testified on March 24 that the overwhelming majority of men need only be directed to essential jobs in industry and they will willingly do their duty. He opposed a general labor draft. [Quotations are here given from a statement by Director McNutt. Portions of the latter's statement appear in another article on this page.]

Draft Proposals Opposed

The Austin-Wadsworth Bill now before Congress provides that all persons—women as well as men—not serving in the armed forces may be conscripted and assigned to work for private employers or for the Government. Because of opposition on the part of labor and employers to this over-all draft, substitute proposals are now being suggested, such as the drafting of men with military classification of 4-F not already in war work.

The American Federation of Labor is opposed to all drafting of civilians in industry. The reasons given below apply just as much to 4-F's as to anyone else. There are about 3,500,000 4-F's at present,

and about 1,000,000 not in war work, a very substantial number of American citizens.

How would the proposed draft change the present democratic manpower controls?

(1) Instead of volunteering for work, workers would be conscripted to work for employers' private profit.

(2) Instead of applying to the Employment Service where their skill and experience are carefully examined, and instead of being referred to jobs where their special abilities are most needed, workers would be called up before the draft boards and ordered out to work. The draft boards are equipped to examine men for only one job—that of being a soldier or sailor. They have no experience or training in selecting men for the many thousand different types of work needed in industry. * * *

(3) Manpower policies today are made by management and labor representatives, at the local, regional and national levels. Under a labor draft, policies would be made by the military.

No Obligation on Employers

(4) To be just and to accomplish its purpose, any manpower program must place responsibility on both employers and workers: Employers to recruit workers and use their skills in the best possible way for the war effort, and with justice to the workers; workers to go where they are needed in essential work and stay on the job except when compelling reasons make a change advisable. Present manpower controls bring about this dual responsibility, and assure justice to workers and employers through appeals to committees on which their own representatives sit.

Under the Austin-Wadsworth Bill responsibility is all on one side. The worker is forced to work as assigned, but the employer has no corresponding obligation. Under present controls, especially in labor shortage areas, every effort is made to correct abuses such as labor hoarding, waste of labor, unjust working conditions, before workers are referred to an employer. Under the labor draft, nothing but the employer's demand is necessary to require a draft board to assign workers to him. * * * A worker might be sent 500 miles or more to a job and the employer could refuse to give him work, leaving him stranded. An employer could use drafted labor to undermine

Director McNutt's View On Manpower Situation

Puncturing the scares raised by Army and Navy officials, W.M.C. Director Paul V. McNutt testified before the House military affairs committee that the "manpower situation is relatively good and labor shortages are causing less damage to production now than at any time since the early months of 1943."

"The vast majority of war plants have been supplied with the manpower they needed," he said. "Labor turnover has been materially reduced. Manpower mobilization has been a success. Moreover, it has been done in a thoroughly democratic manner, with an unprecedented degree of participation by labor, management and local communities."

McNutt pointed out that "the astonishing rise in productivity" of workers has reduced the manpower requirements in munitions industries, and that as a matter of fact, the most critical manpower shortages are largely outside of munitions—in such "supporting activities" as the railroads. *

He argued that the present voluntary setup of recruiting manpower, which operates through labor-management committees, should be retained. "It would be tragic to throw away the work done by these committees and set up a plan of manpower mobilization which puts the emphasis on direct control and compulsion rather than upon co-operation," the manpower chief asserted. "That would be to substitute the military or bureaucratic processes for the democratic."

a union; the provision that no drafted worker may be required to join a union could be used to break a closed shop.

If this bill applies to all workers, or if it is amended to cover 4-F's only, it would take all those it affected out from under the present carefully developed, just and democratic manpower controls. No representation of management or labor is provided. Appeals can be taken to draft boards. But what do draft boards know about shop and employment problems? * * *

No Remedy Against Strikes

Compulsory labor does not stop strikes. In 1942, man-days lost by strike were lower proportionately in the United States than England, and in 1943 also, except for the coal strike. In England man-days lost by strike have increased steadily since 1940 and in Canada since 1938.

Percentage of work time lost by strikes in the United States averaged less than fourteen hundredths of 1 per cent in 1943 and five hundredths of 1 per cent in 1942. The February 1944 figure is six hundredths of 1 per cent. When 1943 coal strikes are omitted, the average for all other strikes was less than five hundredths of 1 per cent.

Present manpower problems are chiefly in labor shortage areas where certain skills are desperately needed. Ability to meet manpower requirements will depend on how the military procurement offices place their new contracts and "cutbacks," and on whether the large companies who receive most of the contracts co-operate in using manpower to the best advantage. Manpower needs can be met if procurement offices award new contracts, wherever possible, to companies in areas where labor supply is ample, and place "cutbacks" in labor shortage areas, and if large companies subcontract in areas where labor is plentiful.

Yet the Federation has many reports showing that new contracts are still being awarded in labor shortage areas and causing serious manpower problems, when firms able to do the work in other areas had ample labor supply. "Cutbacks" also have occurred in towns where there is unemployment.

If the military really wanted to solve manpower problems, these practices could have been corrected long ago.

Don't Give Blank Check

The Senate (Truman) committee warns: "A blank check on manpower cannot be given the procurement agencies. . . . They must be forced to utilize efficiently what is available." The committee cites wasteful practices in using manpower, companies which hired "more workers than they could use or even train," and notes their investigation of an airplane company which asked for 13,000 more workers when it "was not efficiently utilizing the 36,000 workers which it then had and could not usefully employ the additional 13,000."

Discussing the manpower situation, "the committee does not believe that as drastic a remedy as the enactment of a manpower draft statute is warranted." It points out that if the Government assumes the right to draft and place workers, it would be forced to assume responsibility to its citizens to provide right employment at the right salary and furnish transportation, housing and schools. Many new agencies would be required, with resulting confusion.

The committee also states: "The manpower problem is too complex and difficult to be solved by any such easy means as passing a manpower draft statute. The only way to make real progress in this field is to take up separately each of the many problems that exist and try to find means of solving or alleviating it. . . . Labor has fought a long, up-hill fight to obtain recognition of its rights. These rights must be preserved, and it would be most unfortunate if they should be impaired by imposing upon labor Government regulations and restrictions."

Union Official Tangles with Cult Leader on "Doctrine"

"Strictly hooley," is what John A. St. Peter, executive secretary of the Joint Board of the San Francisco culinary and hotel service workers' unions, thinks of some of the claims and "theology" of Arthur L. ("The Voice") Bell.

The latter, a convicted seditionist, has declared that there is no place for unions in the \$4,000,000 business enterprise he has established in the name of his new "Christ's Church of the Golden Rule."

The charter of the church is said to be so drawn that Bell will exercise one-man control, just as he was sole boss of "Mankind United" before that organization became discredited.

Halts Conciliation Effort

His adamant stand regarding unions forced a breakdown, last week, of negotiations before U. S. Conciliator Andrew J. Gallagher. The case will go to the War Labor Board.

The controversy developed at the Hotel Cecil, 545 Post street, which Bell bought recently. One of his first acts was to force out eighteen union men, whose organization held a contract under the previous owner, and substitute his Mankind United followers.

In conciliation hearings before Conciliator Gallagher, Bell admitted that his chambermaids, bell-boys and other help will receive nothing but room and board, and that they will be "associates" in his new Golden Rule church, and, as such, will lay aside worldly pleasures just as do ascetics of established religious orders. As a substitute for pocket money, they will have "an inner satisfaction of the soul," he explained.

In Competitive Field

But speaking for the service unions, Secretary St. Peter declared Bell's organization is made up of highly competitive enterprises. In addition to two hotels and a garage here, his holdings over the State include hotels, office buildings, resorts, laundries, dairies and a sawmill.

From the standpoint of the thirty unions affected, Bell's non-existent wage structure would tend to force down wages in businesses with which Bell competes.

Will Play Both Ends

St. Peter also pointed out that Bell, with his cheap labor, would be in a position to undercut his competitors on prices. To that Bell blithely replied that he intended to keep to market prices, the abnormal profits going to his tax-free "church."

"All of California labor is awake to the danger this man presents," Secretary St. Peter stated. "The Cecil hotel is the test case, with the Los Angeles unions watching it closely. This business about his 'church' being too unworldly to deal with unions is strictly hooley. Union members are churchgoers like everybody else, and union members are called in when churches have work to be done."

To Tell of Jobs On Broadcast

Post-war job opportunities for Western workers will be the theme of "Builders of the West," a special broadcast to be aired by the Columbia System over Station KQW at 9:30 next Sunday night. Speakers include Eric Johnston, president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, en route to Russia; Senator Pat McCarran of Nevada, Governors Earl Warren of California and Sydney Osborn of Arizona and Rex Nicholson, former Regional Administrator of F.W.A.

"Builders of the West" is a recently organized non-profit construction assistance group, and supported by western constructors. The organization is pledged to accomplish the work of bringing both public and private construction projects up to the blueprint stage as soon as possible so that immediately after the cessation of hostilities needed western construction will commence without delay. In this way, "Builders of the West" expect to create a tremendous pool of employment at good wages for discharged war industry workers and returning service men.

339,780 Eligible Voters for Primary Election in S. F.

Following the close of registration, last week, for the May primary election, Register Cameron King announces a total of 339,780 San Franciscans as being eligible to vote. This number is 28,000 less than that registered for the 1942 general election.

The Registrar complimented the drive made in recent weeks to augment the voting roster, declaring it to be a tribute to the unity and civic spirit of all its participants.

Between March 1 and April 6 a total of 48,525 names were added to the roll. Union labor committees had a leading part in accomplishing this result. Due to the fact that the primary election date had been moved forward this year in order to facilitate the voting by the overseas armed forces in the November election, the registration dates were automatically advanced. A committee from the unions immediately swung into action, as it was known there had been a large decrease in the voting register on account of failures to vote in preceding elections, changes of residence and other causes.

For the first time in the history of this city, women outnumber men in the registration, their majority being some 3800. There was little comparative change since 1942 in the division between the major political parties, Democrats now having 221,169, Republicans 113,275. The remainder is shared by the minor parties and among those declining to express party affiliation.

There will be only one slate of delegates each for the Democratic and Republican national conventions, hence the primary election contests throughout the State will center on candidates for U. S. Senator, Representatives in Congress, members of the Legislature, judicial and local officials, and such subjects as may be submitted to referendum in various communities.

The War Labor Board has denied a general wage increase of 15 per cent to 9000 employees of the Aluminum Company of America in plants at Massena, N. Y.; East St. Louis, Ill., and Mobile, Ala. It declared that the workers had received all increases allowable under the Little Steel formula. Labor members of the board dissented.

Dies Committee Exposes Line-up of Reds in C.I.O.

The Dies committee's 215-page report to Congress contained a list of thirty-four high-ranking officials of the C.I.O. Political Action Committee whose political complexion was described as "Red," in detailed dossiers. Among the leading names included in this official list were:

Harry Bridges, official of a C.I.O. Longshoremen's Union and member of the C.I.O. executive board, which launched the Political Action Committee.

Lee Pressman, counsel for the C.I.O., whose "associations with Communist-front organizations have been numerous," the report says.

Joseph Curran, president of the C.I.O. National Maritime Union, which "under Curran's leadership has toed the Communist Party line through all its changes in recent years."

"Subservience to the Line"

Jhlius Emspak, secretary-treasurer of the C.I.O. United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, whose "record as a Communist is established by his subservience to the line of the Communist party on several issues."

Michael J. Quill, president of the C.I.O. Transport Workers' Union, who "is a Communist several times over, never swerving so much as an ideological jot or tittle" from the party line.

Lewis Alan Berne, president of the C.I.O. Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians, who "has been identified as a Communist Party member by numerous witnesses and other evidence."

Abram Flaxer, president of the C.I.O. State, County and Municipal Workers, who "has been active in the affairs of the Communist party as far back as 1936."

Ben Gold, president of the C.I.O. International Fur and Leather Workers, who is "frankly and openly a prominent leader of the Communist party."

Publicly-Avowed Cardholders

Donald Henderson, president of the C.I.O. United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers, who has been "a publicly avowed cardholding member [of the Communist party] for more than ten years."

Lewis Merrill, president of the C.I.O. United Office and Professional Workers, whose "behavior over a long period of years brings him unmistakably as a disciplined follower of the Communist Party line."

Lew H. Michener, West Coast director of the C.I.O. United Automobile Workers, whose "ties with the Communist party are numerous."

Reid Robinson, president of the C.I.O. International Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union, who is "among the shrewdest followers of the Communist Party line."

Others in the list included John T. Bernard, organizer for the U.R.E.W.; Frank R. McGrath, president of the C.I.O. United Shoe Workers; Saul Mills, secretary-treasurer of the C.I.O. New York Industrial Council; Morris Muster, president of the C.I.O. United Furniture Workers; and Joseph P. Selly, president of the C.I.O. American Communications Association.

SHIPYARD WORKERS

Latest figures available, as of February, showed 582,342 workers in thirty-seven major yards engaged in shipbuilding under Maritime Commission contracts. Included in this number were 64,208 trainees and 82,516 women.

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A.F.L. Non-Partisan Policy Reaffirmed in Broadcast

The American Federation of Labor strongly reiterated that it will follow a strict non-partisan political policy during the coming campaign in a "Labor For Victory" broadcast featured by appeals for labor support at the polls by spokesmen for the Democratic and Republican national committees.

Party Spokesman Heard

Representative Gerald W. Landis (R.) of Indiana, who spoke first, declared that the greatest peacetime prosperity ever enjoyed by workers in any country was experienced during Republican administrations and declared that a Republican victory in November offers the best opportunity for full post-war employment and better working conditions.

Representative Michael J. Bradley (D.) of Pennsylvania insisted that the Democratic party, under the leadership of President Roosevelt, has enabled labor to make greater advances in ten years than previously had been recorded in a century. He warned that the Republicans might seek to nullify these gains by cutting off funds for enforcement of labor legislation.

Official Declaration

After the congressmen, who, at the invitation of the A.F.L., were designated as their party spokesmen by the respective national committees, had concluded, Philip Pearl, commentator for the A.F.L., said:

"Now, you have heard both sides of the case. The American Federation of Labor, in pursuance of its non-partisan political policy, does not attempt to pass judgment. It believes its members can be relied upon to exercise their good sense in deciding how to vote. Therefore, the A.F.L. does not indorse any national ticket as a whole nor any political party as a whole.

Check on Voting Records

"The Federation does, however, keep careful check on the voting records of members of Congress. On the basis of these voting records, it gives its official indorsement to members of Congress who have voted in the interests of American workers and for the welfare of the nation as a whole.

"These indorsements are made regardless of the political affiliation of the particular candidate. It makes no difference to the A.F.L. whether a member of Congress is a Democrat or a Republican. If his record shows him to be a friend of labor and a loyal American, he can count on the Federation's indorsement. Otherwise the members of the A.F.L. are urged to defeat him.

"There you have the Federation's non-partisan political policy in a nutshell. We are confident it will work out in the coming political campaign for the election of candidates who will do everything in their power to win the war and to win the peace."

A.F.L. BOOSTS "RALEIGHS" DRIVE

Orders for 220,000 union label cigarettes, to be sent to members of the armed forces overseas, have been sent by Secretary-Treasurer George Meany of the American Federation of Labor to the Brown and Williamson Tobacco Corporation, manufacturers of "Raleighs." The A.F.L. orders boosted the total for Raleighs one recent week to 8,000,000, all going overseas.

Pressmen's Official Visits Here

Herbert De La Rosa paid a brief visit to the "old home town" this week and was enabled to contact a few of his friends and acquaintances. The former secretary of San Francisco Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union No. 24, he is now vice-president and a representative of his international union, and in that capacity spends most of his time in southern California, the Southwestern States and as far East as Kansas City. He reports the same general experiences as do those representing other organizations which have been brought about under war conditions. His healthy appearance and energetic nature seem unchanged.

More Conciliation to Be Sought

The War Labor Board has authorized Regional Boards and W.L.B. commissions to refer labor disputes over which the board has accepted jurisdiction back to the parties, without relinquishing jurisdiction, for further efforts at settlement through collective bargaining, arbitration or conciliation.

The board said it had authorized this procedure "in view of the special obligation of employers and unions in wartime to utilize collective bargaining, conciliation and arbitration to the utmost in order that the no-strike, no lockout pledge may be effectuated without overstraining the processes of government. . . ."

The board also announced creation of a joint staff advisory committee of the W.L.B. and the U.S. Conciliation Service to consult on doubtful cases prior to certification of the board.

Union Official Is Elected Councilman in Daly City

Edward J. Dennis, well known member of Milk Wagon Drivers' Union No. 226, came through with flying colors in his race for Councilman of Daly City at the election last Tuesday. When the ballots were counted, "Eddie" was found to be in the top position among the four candidates, with 1296 votes. Successful on the same ticket with him was Burton L. Merritt, scoring 1234. Their opponents, John J. Fahey and Edmund Cavagnaro, who were the incumbent councilmen, received 978 and 975 votes, respectively.

Dennis is recording secretary of the Milk Wagon Drivers' Union, a position he has held for the past five years. With his wife and two children, a son and daughter, he resides at 56 Mateo street. There are five members of the Daly City Council to which he has been elected, and his term is for four years. His many friends, both in and outside the labor movement, are extending congratulations.

"Whatever enlarges hope will also exalt courage."
—Johnson.

Appeal to Unions to Lead In Attaining Red Cross Goal

President John F. Shelley of the San Francisco Labor Council issued a special appeal last Tuesday to the Council's affiliated unions in behalf of the Red Cross campaign in this city, which is short in the quota assigned to it in the present national drive. President Shelley is a member of the board of directors of the local chapter of the Red Cross.

In his communication it is pointed out that every union in the city is proud of its members who are serving in the armed forces, and that there is nothing within reason which the organizations would not do for the welfare and comfort of their members now serving the nation. "The American Red Cross," Shelley's communication continues, "is your agency and your opportunity for doing just that."

Quota Short \$100,000

Revealing that the local drive lacked \$100,000 of attaining its goal, and pointing out San Francisco's duty in the situation due to its close and intimate association with war activities, Shelley declares that he would like to see the A.F.L. unions take the lead in making up the deficiency in the campaign goal. To that end he urges immediate action by the various locals in making subscriptions from their treasury funds, and that an immediate report be made to the Labor Council on any definite or contemplated action in the matter.

"Greatest Humanitarian Job"

The communication also praises the work of the Red Cross as "performing the greatest humanitarian job of this war," and "it is most satisfying to know that ninety cents out of every dollar contributed goes directly for service and supplies of our armed forces."

(Though not part of the above-mentioned communication, it is being urged by those active in forwarding the contributions by labor organizations to the Red Cross that the unions which have made donations to the campaign but have not yet reported thereon to the Labor Council should do so at once. This is necessary in order that the labor representatives may have concrete knowledge of the facts and thus be enabled to render a comprehensive report to the general campaign committee on the actual contributions from the ranks of labor.

"Much learning shows how little mortals know."
—E. Young.

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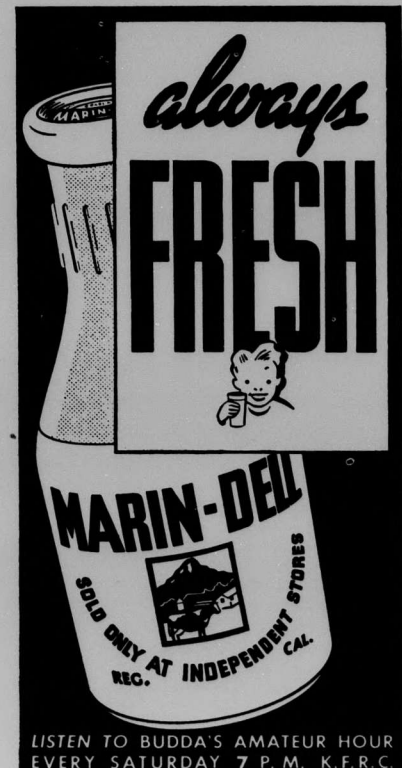
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Run o' the Hook

By FRED E. HOLDERBY
President of Typographical Union No. 21

President Baker of the International Typographical Union left last Saturday evening for the East after spending four days in San Francisco before reservations for continuing his trip could be obtained. Coming from Houston, Texas, where he was successful in negotiating a new newspaper agreement, he was on his way to Seattle to assist No. 202 in its present negotiations. Word from Chicago and later developments in the set-up in Seattle made it necessary for him to change his itinerary and leave for the Windy City at once. Transportation is such, said President Baker, that it was necessary for him to take three different buses on his trip from Indianapolis to Houston, two of them being the old Mack truck type, and one never knows whether it will be possible to make connections at all. The scale he was able to get for Houston printers amply repaid him for the inconvenience of travel under war conditions, a minimum scale of \$1.536 per hour for day work having been agreed to. This is the full 15 per cent allowable under the Little Steel formula. Vacations with pay were included in the contract. He learned while here that Akron (Ohio) Union, where Vice-President Desper was assisting, had completed an agreement calling for \$1.626 per hour for day work, plus vacations with pay.

Hale and hearty and brown as a berry, Radioman First Class L. A. Manzo of the *Examiner* chapel dropped in at headquarters last Friday. Just returned from sixteen months in the South Seas combat area, Lester is spending a thirty-day furlough with his sisters and other relatives here. Enlisting in 1940, he has served four years in the Navy, and luck has been with him all the way. Although his decorations show that he has participated in four major engagements, he has never been wounded.

Ralph Trickle of the *Wall Street Journal* chapel has been returned from Stanford Hospital and is convalescing at home after undergoing an operation last month and subsequent treatment for an eye trouble which has bothered him over a long period and which had lately impaired his vision to an extent which demanded an operation. Reports are that great improvement has resulted, but that it will be some time before he will again report for duty.

Ray McDonald of Los Angeles Typographical Union, for years a member of No. 21 and well known in the Bay area, left Sunday evening for southern California after a five days' visit with his mother, Mrs. Mary McDonald, 834 Bush street. Ray is now a member of the *Tidings* chapel in Los Angeles.

J. H. ("Fitz") Fitzgerald of the Intertype Corporation returned last week-end from ten days in the Valley towns. While in Merced he attended an open meeting of the Union, which turned out to be an enjoyable affair. "Fitz" says all the Valley towns were sweltering under what was claimed to be the hottest weather in years for the first part of April.

Clyde Atherton, who deposited a Honolulu traveling card here a year ago, and who until recently was a member of the Patterson & Hall chapel, drew another traveler last week and stated that as soon

as he could obtain transportation he would return to the Islands, where he is to take charge of the Honolulu *Advertiser* composing room. Prior to his previous residence in Hawaii, Clyde had made numerous trips out of San Francisco to the Orient as ship printer, and it was while he was returning from Australia that he was taken ashore with an attack of acute appendicitis. On his release from the hospital he decided to seek work in Honolulu and remained there several years.

Notification was received on Tuesday by relatives of Ramon J. McKenny of the Bosqui Printing Company chapel that he had been killed in action in Italy. No word had been received from McKenny for some time, and his whereabouts was unknown until this notice arrived. Enlisting in the Army in March 1941, he had been discharged eight months later, and was again called to the colors on April 22, 1942. It is known that he was with the Fifth Army in Italy, and it is believed he was on the Cassino front. Born on May 31, 1906, deceased was 37 years of age at the time of his death, which the notice states was on March 4. He had been a member of the union sixteen years, having been initiated on January 15, 1928. This is the third casualty among our 150 members in service, E. J. Haluska having died of pneumonia in an Illinois camp, and Lieut. R. F. Turrentine of the *Call-Bulletin* chapel being reported missing in air action over the African front.

Among those taking their two-week vacations on the *Examiner* are E. F. Coleman and A. Zirzow of the machine room, J. J. Cantwell of the makeup department, and E. E. Harris of the proofroom.

In a letter to his father, R. G. ("Bob") Vernor of the *Examiner* machine room, Lieut. J. E. ("Bill") Vernor of the *Chronicle* chapel, now stationed in "Merrie England," describes the weather as wet, the houses cold and the beer warm; uses a GI bicycle for local transportation, and "tours" by air, as he is navigator on a bomber. "Bill" was decorated with the Air Medal at the completion of five missions, but says that because the medal supply was exhausted a ribbon was made to suffice. Clusters being in order for each successive five missions, he hopes to "have a fruit salad to sport in San Francisco unless furlough blanks are exhausted when his time arrives."

Fred J. Lynch, T/5, of the Marshall-Adams Printing Corporation, with the Ordnance Corps and finally landed "somewhere in England," has written his fellow chapel members and sends regards to all his friends on Sansome street. Fred has a slightly different slant on the beer and ale situation in England, stating, "The English beer and ale are superior to what I was led to expect; one can get a full pint for a shilling (20 cents)."

News Chapel Notes—By L. L. Heagney

One very likable trait of International President Claude Baker is that when he comes to town he never fails to come in and say hello to his friends on the *News*, where he used to hold a "sit" years ago. And another noticeable trait, as observed on his visit last week, Baker seems never to age; neither the passing of time nor wartime responsibilities, save for a certain whitening over the temples, are able to deduct a particle from his always capable yet youthful appearance.

His visits of recent years are infrequent, but when Don Bartholomew does drop in work usually ceases, and his coming in last week proved no exception, as his fellow-workers were delighted to see him. Don holds a "sit" on the Los Angeles *Racing Form*.

Looked like a real home-coming last week, with Jack Bengston back from the Aleutians on leave and France Lambert, also on leave from the Presidio and working a few days for spending money. After one and a half years up north Jack said city noises bothered him; street car rumblings especially made his ears ring, his head ache. An Asiatic campaign ribbon adorned with one battle insignia, of which Jack was quite proud, got lots of handling and many inquiries as to its significance.

A report direct from St. Luke's hospital by Chuck Adams, who was first of his friends at the shop to call, has it that Eddie O'Rourke, though very ill following a major operation, is doing nicely and is now permitted to have visitors.

Voting in the chapel on the international referendum showed members stringing along with the ma-

U. S. Supreme Court Ruling Affecting 'Minority Union'

The U. S. Supreme Court ruled this week that employers must bargain with a union designated as a bargaining agent, even though the union has lost a majority and even though a majority have asked the employer to bargain independently.

The court, in a 7 to 2 decision, upheld an order of the National Labor Relations Board to the Medo Photo Supply Corporation, New York, to bargain with a union.

According to the press report, the A.F.L. Photo Employees' Union had been made bargaining agent for twenty-six employees of the shipping and receiving department, but eighteen members notified the employer they wanted to bargain independently. They did so, winning wage increases. The high court upheld an N.L.R.B. order charging unfair labor practices.

Majority locally, the vote being 27 against to 19 for. Tellers elected at a meeting the day preceding were Eula Edwards, William Leslie and W. R. Smith.

One of the San Franciscans in attendance at the California Conference of Typographical Unions at San Jose April 2 was Joe Sullivan. The round table discussion the morning of the first day Sullivan found both arresting and timely.

That old-time Marine, Clarence Bossler, is impressed with Admiral Nimitz and his lively sailors of the Pacific fleet. "It strikes me," Clarence said, "that each time the Admiral feels the need of exercise he uses the entire ocean for his stroll."

"I'd like to 'pull a Willkie' myself," asserted Charlie Cornelius, enviously. "And I would quit if I could get a pension from some of the pension plans."

Welcome was the news that Mrs. Gene Davies brought to the shop last week—that Gene had just written; that the Arizona climate had worked miracles for his health and that he'd start home as soon as a plane priority opened.

Vast improvement in Lyle Abbott's health induced his brother, Rev. Carlton Abbott, Elkhart, Ind., to come West to see him, and on his way home the Rev. Mr. Abbott stopped over for a visit with Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Abbott. After months in a Colorado Army hospital, Lyle, recovered from a broken leg, was transferred to Camp Haan, in southern California.

Golf News—By Fred N. Leach

The big news this week is from the handicap committee, which met on Monday night and cooked up plenty of handicap revisions that will be ready for release next week. These handicaps as revised will stand for the duration of the match play tourney.

The sixteen losers in the first round of the match play tourney at Millbrae on April 30 will be matched to play for the consolation trophy—so even if one loses in the first round he will have a chance at a trophy—and a honey, too. This consolation trophy was presented to the Association as a permanent trophy, and to be competed for each year, by the United American Metals Company, through the courtesy of Tom Finn, the local representative.

OFF THE FAIRWAY—Saw Sgt. Len Sweet of the Army Air Forces over the week-end. Len was one of the old standbys of the Association, and one of this correspondent's particular golf "enemies." He looks fine—and wants to be remembered to the gang. . . . Hear that Ned DiGrazia—of the Army and also one of our old standbys—was in town, too, over the week-end. . . . Ralph Iusi, of the Navy, was also seen prancing down Sansome street last Friday, and he seemed very pleased about something. Ralph looks fit as a fiddle—and threatens to get his name on that trophy again this year. . . . Mark that calendar off for the 30th, for that's the Association's day down in the Millbrae neck of the woods—and they do say the course is in wonderful condition. Greens fees will be \$1.25, entry fee 50 cents, and tee time 10:30. See you at the 19th hole.

Representative Celler of New York wants to increase salaries of Senators and Representatives to \$15,000 a year. Only a 50 per cent jump!

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Mailer Notes

By LEROY C. SMITH

Among matters coming before next Sunday's union meeting will be election of local officers and delegates.

In referendum on proposition initiated by Detroit Typographical Union, held April 5, Mailers' Union No. 18 voted 16 in favor to 32 against. Returns on the referendum are slow in coming in from the cities. New York Typographical Union voted 2417 in favor to 2000 against. (*Daily News*, largest chapel in New York, 170 in favor to 78 against.)

Sgt. Langton, nephew of Howard Langton of the *Examiner* won a \$60 prize in Phil Baker's Sunday show, "Take It or Leave It."

William D. Williams, *Chronicle* chapel, is now being given treatment of blood transfusions and oxygen for the lung ailment he has been suffering from the past couple of months.

Maurice Michelson is still confined to bed at his home. His condition is reported as improving.

Teamsters' Southern Conference

The Southern Conference of Teamsters and Chauffeurs' Unions, composed of 60 local unions in ten southern states with a membership of more than 35,000, was formally organized recently at Memphis, which city was named official headquarters of the new organization.

James E. Hamilton of Oklahoma City was elected president, F. L. Medlin of Nashville vice-president and John Biggers secretary. States whose unions have joined the conference are Kentucky, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Tennessee. North and South Carolina are expected to join soon.

Indorse Assemblyman Gaffney

The San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council has announced its indorsement of Assemblyman Edward M. Gaffney for re-election in the Twenty-sixth district. Gaffney, who has filed for nomination on both the Democratic and Republican tickets at the May 16 primary, is serving his second term in the Legislature. Other labor indorsements already given him are those of Painters' No. 19 (of which union he is a member), Asbestos Workers No. 16, the District Council of Painters, Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen. His campaign manager is Dan Del Carlo, business representative of the Building and Construction Trades Council.

ARRANGING HOBOES' CONVENTION

"Jeff" Davis, king, emperor and grand exalted ruler of the Knights of the Road, affiliated with Hoboes of America, Inc., has opened headquarters in Washington to complete arrangements for a hobo convention here next month. Davis states that the millions of his members will be represented by proxies, thus relieving congestion on freight cars, but his plans promise to make the convention a memorable event. "Jeff" has credentials from President Green of the A.F.L. and many labor officials all over the country. He addressed the San Francisco Labor Union recently.

Representative Cochran of Missouri told the House of Representatives that a civilian purchased 53,557 drycell batteries from the Army for \$80 and sold them for \$20,000.

S. F. Area Leads in Shipbuilding

San Francisco has become the world's largest shipbuilding center.

Between June 1940 and January of this year, contracts totaling \$3,031,107,000 have been awarded to shipbuilding firms in the San Francisco Bay area, the Chamber of Commerce reports, the announcement being based on information supplied by the War Production Board.

San Francisco Bay area firms, the report further said, has received the highest total of facility contracts for any similar area in the West. The contracts total \$636,303,000. Of this amount, \$349,989,000 was for industrial facilities and \$286,314,000 for military facilities. The grand total of all contracts awarded in this area has skyrocketed to the staggering amount of \$4,258,135,000.

U. S. Conciliation Service Settles Many Disputes

Nearly 400 labor disputes were settled by the Conciliation Service of the U. S. Department of Labor in the eleven Western States during January and February, it is announced by Ernest P. Marsh, regional director of the Service. Of these, 190 were settled in January and 198 in February.

Only seven strikes occurred in the 236 cases to which commissioners of conciliation were assigned in January, after the Service had been invited by a party to the dispute to act as mediator, Marsh said. Six of these were settled by the commissioners and were included in the total of 190 settlements.

In February there were seven strikes out of the 271 cases assigned to commissioners, and again they settled six of them after brief work stoppages.

The strikes enumerated are those in which services of the Conciliation Service were requested, and cover nearly all strikes in war production industries. Occasionally a strike occurs such as the Los Angeles utility strike, which comes under direct jurisdiction of a subordinate but autonomous government body.

VACUUM POWER BRAKING

Details of a revolutionary new system of vacuum power braking which has equipped more than 500,000 American and Allied military vehicles since Pearl Harbor have been revealed by Malcolm P. Ferguson, vice-president of the Bendix Aviation Corp. Known as the "Hydrovac," the new unit, which combines all the elements of vacuum power braking into a single self-contained assembly, will be available for early post-war application on passenger cars, trucks, buses and all other vehicles that can be equipped with hydraulically actuated brakes, Ferguson said.

Patronize barber shops displaying the Union Card.

Call Political Conference Of Local A.F.L. Unions

The "A.F.L. Committee to Aid Labor's Friends" this week sent out a call to all A.F.L. unions to be represented at a conference to be held last night (Thursday) in the Labor Temple.

In the call it was stated that "to continue the very good work which has been done in the past several weeks on registration, a sub-committee of the registration and legislative committee of the San Francisco Labor Council interested in the protection of labor's rights in the coming primary election" was summoning last night's conference. Purpose of the conference was declared to be as follows:

"1. Co-ordinate activities of all A.F.L. organizations in San Francisco to further the candidacy of those officials who have been friendly to labor in the past.

"2. Announce indorsement of candidates who have been friendly to labor.

"3. Devise ways and means to assist in the campaign of all candidates who receive indorsement by the conference."

The call for the gathering further stated that indorsements would be made for legislative offices only and that the conference would not be concerned with judiciary offices or initiative measures. Each organization was declared to be entitled to five representatives.

The call was signed by Thomas White, as chairman of the registration and legislative committee, the other committee members being Al Wynn, John F. Shelley, Helen Wheeler, Ann O'Leary, Charles Foehn, John Wagner, Clarence Walsh, Leon Kaplan, Forrest Seitsinger, J. Vernon Burke, Dan Del Carlo, Jack Smith and Thomas Rotell.

Union Member Composes Song

Albert E. Bly, war worker at the Santa Rosa Brass Foundry, and member of the Molders and Foundry Workers' Union, has composed a song that should appeal to all Californians. Its title is "I Picked Some Oranges in California." The words portray the beauty of our State and its wealth in fruit and flowers. The melody is declared to be very "catchy," and as ideal for dancing. The new composition is being published by the Golden West Music Publications and will be released to the public at an early date.

SELF-HEATING SOUP CAN

Steaming soup is produced within four minutes after touching off the fuse of a heating element within a new can now being distributed to U. S. and British soldiers. The self-heating can is a favorite with soldiers in cold climates. They tuck it inside their jackets as a hot water bottle substitute.

BONDS TODAY HOMES TOMORROW

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San Francisco

Bewildered, Resentful Over Proposals Afloat in Capital

By PHILIP PEARL, in A.F.L. News Service

So many draft proposals are popping up in the nation's capital these days that, in trying to dispose of them, we feel almost as helpless as the Nazi ack-ack gunners in the face of repeated, mammoth air raids by American and British bombers.

For instance, we learn that Economic Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson has issued a decree which requires some firms, permitted to go back to civilian production of clothing, to produce at cost and which limits other companies to a profit of only 2 per cent.

A Guiding Rule?

If this is to be the guiding rule for conversion to peace-time production in all industries—and there are strong indications to that effect—how in the world are we going to induce business people to expand their post-war production facilities in a hurry so as to provide jobs for ex-war workers and ex-soldiers?

We assume that Mr. Vinson was anxious to make peace-time production as unalluring as possible to prevent jealousy by companies which will not be permitted to reconvert immediately and also to keep prices down. But such artificial and theoretical methods won't work out as planned and, in the long run, are apt to do more harm than good.

The Labor Battalion Plan

Even more dangerous are some of the weird ideas now being advanced as cures for the nation's manpower problems. Instead of quietly working out a practical and sound program, the leaders of our Government are giving voice on the spur of the moment to experimental proposals which are ridiculous on their face. Ignoring the factual report of War Man-

power Commissioner McNutt that the manpower situation is good, they insist on tinkering with established and going processes.

Thus we hear authoritative statements to the effect that those classified as 4-F in the draft should be conscripted into labor battalions for service in private industry.

Is it proposed that these physically handicapped individuals be required to serve at Army pay alongside of workers who earn and are paid established wage scales in accordance with their skill and ability to produce? Does that sound as though it would work?

And in Free America!

Is it legal or logical to use the powers of the Selective Service system to compel American citizens, not to fight in defense of their country, but to work for a private company operating for private profit? Could that happen in free America?

Is it conceivable that the workers in a plant would tolerate being invaded by battalions of 4-F's, many of them suffering from loathsome diseases, and being required to work alongside of such individuals? That flies in the face of human nature.

We predict that all proposals of this sort will be defeated. But, regardless of their fate, we protest against the loose way these queer ideas are being advanced. The confusion which they create among the American people is damaging to the war effort.

Local Option Initiative Measure Ruled Off Ballot

Attorney General Robert W. Kenny has informed Secretary of State Frank M. Jordan that an initiative measure providing for local liquor option is disqualified for the November general election ballot.

The Attorney General rule the issue presented an identical parallel to the "Ham and Eggs" pension case recently before the California Supreme Court, in which the court held that signatures obtained on petitions prior to the last preceding general election were invalid for application toward a 1944 qualification.

Patronize barber shops displaying the Union Card.

Seek to Protect Rights of Nazis' Recruited Workers

The conference of the International Labor Organization opening next Thursday in Philadelphia will have before it a proposal for the adoption of an international treaty guaranteeing the pension rights of workers recruited by Germany, the International Labor Office announces.

The proposal is contained in a report prepared for submission to the conference by the office, which is the permanent secretariat of the International Labor Organization.

The proposed treaty, or "international labor convention," it is explained in the report, while designed primarily to safeguard the social security benefits of foreign workers employed in German war production, covers all workers recruited for temporary employment in another country during the war.

The report points out that an I.L.O. study published last year estimated there were 5,000,000 foreign workers employed in Germany or in countries under German control at the beginning of 1943, and that since then this number has increased considerably.

The majority of those workers have been transferred from countries with extensive schemes of compulsory insurance against invalidity, old age and death, and in the countries where they are now employed, the report says, they have, in most cases, received some assurance that the rights they have acquired under this insurance.

Look to Labor for Aid In Fifth War Loan Drive

Organized labor again will be called upon to play an important part in the Fifth War Loan campaign which will start on June 12 and run to July 8.

Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau has announced that the goal will be \$16,000,000,000, of which \$6,000,000,000 is to come from sales of War Bonds to individuals.

"In the Fourth War Loan," Secretary Morgenthau said, "individuals invested \$5,300,000,000. In planning to get \$6,000,000,000 of the Fifth War Loan's \$16,000,000,000 goal in individual sales, we are asking the American people for more than ever before. Fifth War Loan goals were set high because the nation's Treasury must borrow a great deal of money this year to keep the war going. We will need more than twice as much as we can expect to get in taxes.

"Since January 1, 1944, the direct costs of the war have exceeded \$23,000,000,000. With the critical phases of the war still ahead of us, certainly no decline in expenditures is now in prospect. For this reason the \$16,000,000,000—all of which is to be raised from investors other than commercial banks—is urgently needed."

The Secretary pointed out that the major emphasis throughout the entire period of the drive will be placed on the \$6,000,000,000 quota for individuals.

BROADCAST ON "RUSSIA TODAY"

The second broadcast in the "Russia Today" series, presented weekly by the American Russian Institute for cultural relations with the Soviet Union, over KGO, San Francisco, will be heard tomorrow (Saturday) at 5:15 p. m. The subject will be the "Triumph of the Red Army," with M. C. Hermann, officer of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, who was with the American army of occupation in Siberia in 1918; Frederick Thompson, businessman, and Mrs. R. Oliver, chief of the community services division of the War Manpower Commission in San Francisco, as participants in the round table discussion.

"What government is the best? That which teaches us to govern ourselves."—Goethe.



Watchmakers' Union

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LOOK FOR THIS EMBLEM

Ask for Our Written Guarantee

"We Don't Patronize" List

The concerns listed below are on the "We Don't Patronize" list of the San Francisco Labor Council. Members of labor unions and sympathizers are requested to note this list carefully from week to week:

Adam Hat Stores, Inc., 119 Kearny.
Advance Pattern Company, 552 Mission.
American Distributing Company.
Austin Studio, 833 Market.
Avenue Hotel, 419 Golden Gate.
Becker Distributing Company.
Bruener, John, Company.
B & G Sandwich Shops.
California Watch Case Company.
Chan Quong, photo engraver, 680 Clay.
Curtis Publishing Co. (Philadelphia), publishers of *Saturday Evening Post*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Country Gentleman*.
Doran Hotels (include St. Regis, 85 Fourth St.; Mint, 141 Fifth St.; Hale, 939 Mission St.; Land, 936 Mission St.; Hillsdale, 51 Sixth St.; Grand Central, 1412 Market St., and the Ford Apartments, 957 Mission St.)
Drake Cleaners and Dyers.
Forderer Cornice Works, 269 Potrero.
Gantner & Mattem, 1453 Mission.
Gates Rubber Company, 2700 Sixteenth Street.
General Distillers, Ltd., 136 Front St.
Goldstone Bros., manufacturers of overalls and working men's clothing.
Lucerne Apartments, 766 Sutter.
M. R. C. Roller Bearing Company, 550 Polk.
National Beauty Salon, 207 Powell.
Navaleet Seed Company, 423 Market.
O'Keefe-Merritt Stove Co., Products, Los Angeles.
Pacific Label Company, 1150 Folsom.
Purity Springs Water Company, 2050 Kearny.
Remington-Rand, Inc., 509 Market.

Romaine Photo Studio, 220 Jones.
Royal Typewriter Company, 153 Kearny.
Sealey Mattress Company, 6699 San Pablo Avenue, Oakland.
Sherwin-William Paint Company.
Sloane, W. & J.
Smith, L. C., Typewriter Company, 545 Market.
Speed-E Menu Service, 693 Mission.
Standard Oil Company.
Stanford University Hospital, Clay and Webster.
Sutro Baths and Skating Rink.
Swift & Co.
Time and Life (magazines), products of the unfair Donnelley firm (Chicago).
Underwood Typewriter Company, 531 Market.
Val Vita Food Products, Inc., Fullerton, Calif.
Wooldridge Tractor Equipment Company, Sunnyvale, California.
All non-union independent taxicabs.
Barber Shops that do not display the shop card of the Journeymen Barbers' Union are unfair.
Beauty Shops that do not display the shop card of the Hairdressers and Cosmetologists' Department of the Journeymen Barbers' International Union of America are unfair.
Cleaning establishments that do not display the shop card of Retail Cleaners' Union No. 93 are unfair.
Locksmith Shops which do not display the union shop card of Federated Locksmiths No. 1331 are unfair.

Washington Writer's View On Labor Developments

Labor has a growing fear of Army and Navy encroachment upon the country's economic life, says Chester Wright's "Labor Letter," published in Washington by Chester M. Wright and Associates, Inc., which organization also provides the International Labor News Service. As informative to readers and expressive of Mr. Wright's opinion only, the following portions of his letter are here reproduced:

"A complementary concern is felt about the reactions of men released from the armed services," the letter says. "To meet the first danger, labor is beginning to attack the 'brass hats.' In the second situation, labor is doing more and more to try to show the returning soldier the value of unions in protecting his interests." The letter goes on to discuss labor's attitude, saying:

Sees Changed Attitude

"Present changed attitude toward the President contrasts with past faith. At hearings September 15, 1942, before the Senate committee on banking and currency on stabilizing the cost of living, both A.F.L. President Green and C.I.O.'s Van Bittner wanted President Roosevelt to possess strong powers.

Green, in response to questions from Senator Taft (relating to power of the President to set aside any collective bargaining agreement that fails to conform to the Act), and Senator Danager (on assurances received by Green from the President leading him to believe that the plan might be entrusted to the President), said:

"I think in a great emergency, such as we are passing through, we have to rise to new heights and meet the situation in a big and broad way and place in the hands of the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy power to deal with the economic situation. That is the way I feel about it."

Draft Plan Seen

Mr. Wright's letter adds:

"One of the reasons for lessening confidence in the President on the part of labor leaders is the President's insistence on a National Service Act, including the substitute proposal of labor battalions.

"Labor is objecting to growing pools of unemployment, of which the Army wants many in order to force workers to move to labor shortage areas.

"Labor leaders are charging that recent orders, including the blanket withdrawal of young men, are intended to produce a situation which will produce a labor draft."

500 RADIO TELEGRAPHERS NEEDED

The American Merchant Marine needs at least 500 first and second class commercial radio telegraphers who are licensed by the Federal Communications Commission within the next three months, the War Shipping Administration announces. Men who possess the qualifications should wire, collect, at once to U. S. Merchant Marine, Washington, D. C. Qualified men can also apply in person or by letter to any U. S. Employment Service office. All qualifying registrants must attend a Navy school on wartime procedure, which will require from one to three weeks. Registrants will be paid while attending school.

A COMPENSATING ADVANTAGE

"Ah, Mr. Clarence Darrow!" gushed an ardent admirer of the great lawyer and philosopher. "You have suffered a great deal in your life from being misunderstood, haven't you?" Darrow smiled, and replied: "Yes; but I haven't suffered half as much as I would have if I had been understood."

OUR VICTORY VETERANS

What are we going to do for them?

Their fathers came back from serving in World War I and they had to sell apples.

What about our "Vets" of World War II?

They have been fighting for the Four Freedoms. Some have been wounded in action in the struggle to preserve a "government of the people, by the people, for the people."

They lived in foxholes and submarines; they sacrificed and suffered; they saw their buddies drop around them. They went through hell!

Will America give the veteran of World War II a job, or must he, also, sell apples?

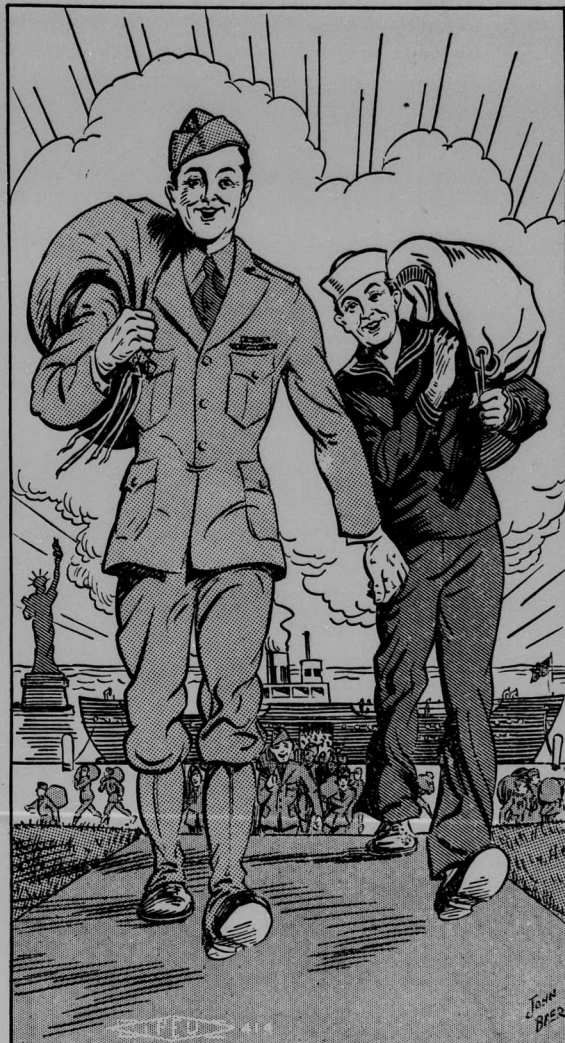
He has been promised a good job when he comes home—that means a job at decent wages under decent working conditions. Are we going to keep that promise?

There must be a market for what he produces. That market can only be assured if the people of America have sufficient purchasing power to buy.

That purchasing power can be secured in only one way — maintaining wages, hours and working conditions on a high level. They are maintained in America by labor unions.

Every time you buy Union Label goods, or patronize a service that is designated by a Shop Card or Service Button, you are helping to maintain the American standard of wages, hours and working conditions; you are helping prepare America to give a decent job at decent wages, hours and working conditions to every veteran of World War II and assure the boys now fighting this war good jobs when they get home!

J.M. Orsburn
Secretary-Treasurer



UNION LABEL TRADES DEPARTMENT, American Federation of Labor, Washington 1, D. C.

U. S. Court Ruling Helps Smash Company "Union"

The U. S. Supreme Court, in refusing to review an order against the Baltimore Transit Company by the War Labor Board, killed all hopes of survival of the company "union" maintained by that utility for the last twenty years.

The decision of the court effectuates a W.L.B. order directing the company to disestablish an "independent union," which is controlled by company officials, to reinstate several discharged employees and grant them back pay, and to reimburse employees for dues checked off from their wages.

This company has fought tooth and nail efforts of the Amalgamated Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees to organize its employees. It claimed that because its business is entirely intrastate the Fair Labor Standards Act does not apply, but the W.L.B. contended that the company gets power over interstate lines, and has made it stick.

This "independent union," says an official of the Amalgamated, has been one of the most pernicious in the country.

Have you made a blood donation to the Blood Bank?

100% UNION
BENEDETTI FLORAL CO.
FLOWERS FOR ALL OCCASIONS
HEmlock 3323
2980 SIXTEENTH STREET, Below Mission

P. G. AND E. STOCKHOLDERS

In 1943 the number of Pacific Gas and Electric Company stockholders increased to a total of 117,283, comprising 64,785 holders of preferred shares and 52,498 holders of common stock. Of the total, 78,504 are residents of California and 38,779 reside outside of the State. Women stockholders outnumber men, the register showing 53,219 women, 37,728 men and 23,157 joint tenants, fully half of the latter being women.

Patronize the firms advertising in the LABOR CLARION.

**DAIRY
BELLE**
*will keep
you well*



Dairy Belle Farms, a
Co-operative Association
of Bay Area Dairy-
men.



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San Francisco
Mission 5616



San Francisco
Sutter 6654

Oakland
Hlgate 1017

Caswell's
NATIONAL CREST
Coffee

Direct
Delivered
for
Freshness

Summary of A.F.L. Wage Policy Presented to W.L.B.

[George Meany, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, summarized the Federation's position with respect to wage stabilization at a public hearing before a National War Labor Board panel, further reported upon on another page of this issue, as follows:]

"It is considered judgment of the American Federation of Labor that the following facts are established:

Basis of Program

"1. That the peacetime standard of living of the wage earners was the basis of wage stabilization.

"2. That when the process of stabilizing wages was begun the peace-time standards of living had been broken for all workers whose average straight-time hourly wage rates had not increased at least 15 per cent above the January 1941 level.

Due All Workers

"3. That an increase up to 15 per cent in the average straight-time hourly rates was due all workers whose wages had not risen as much as 15 per cent.

"4. That the expressed assumption of the National War Labor Board when it created the Little Steel Formula was that the National Economic Policy would be sufficiently effective to halt the rise in the cost of living.

"5. That the National Economic Policy has not been noticeably successful and the cost of living has continued to rise.

Loss in Real Income

"6. That the wage earners of America have, as a consequence, suffered a loss in real income arising from the rigid application of the Little Steel allowance.

"7. That the President of the United States has the power to correct this gross inequity.

"In view of these facts, the American Federation of Labor petitions the National War Labor Board to request the President:

Would Request President

"1. To modify realistically that portion of Executive Order No. 9328 which limits increases to offset maladjustments to the Little Steel Formula as heretofore defined by the National War Labor Board for the rise in the cost of living between January 1, 1941, and May 1, 1942."

"2. To permit employers to apply the maladjustment principle thus modified without obtaining approval from the National War Labor Board."

Drive Against Industrial Accidents

One million fewer work accidents in the next twelve months is the goal set by Secretary of Labor Perkins for attainment by American labor and management. Its attainment means substantially a 40-per-cent reduction from the total of 2,500,000 industrial accidents which occurred in 1943.

Last year—the second full year of our war effort—industrial accidents took the lives of 18,400 workers, permanently crippled 108,000 others, and temporarily laid up 2,225,000 workers for an average of 15 days apiece.

In terms of productive time, this means that every day throughout the past year 180,000 workers failed to report for work because of injuries. It means that 20,000 workers are permanently removed from our industrial army, and 108,000 others unable to perform their jobs as well this year as they did in 1943.

100,000 SEEK DEFERMENTS

The War Manpower Commission's inter-agency committee on deferment had received requests from federal claimant agencies for more than 100,000 deferments in the under-26-age bracket, it was reported from Washington last Tuesday.

Blood Donors Needed Here

Allotments recently increased by the military authorities have established a weekly goal of 7000 filled units for the San Francisco Red Cross Blood Procurement Center.

Center workers estimated a loss of 104 pints of blood—necessary to the men on the fighting fronts—last Tuesday when the daily quota of 445 filled units fell more than 100 short of its mark.

Free transportation to the Center is afforded through station wagon service from Roos Bros., downtown, and from the Mission district recruiting offices, 2515 Mission street.

Congressman Calls for the Repeal of Anti-Labor Act

On the basis of a glowing report on labor's record in war production from Chairman Donald Nelson of the War Production Board, Representative Louis Ludlow of Indiana has demanded that Congress repeal the obnoxious Smith-Connally law and defeat proposals for drafting labor.

Representative Ludlow wrote to Nelson for a candid report on labor's record. He said: "If the labor picture is bad, I want to know it. If, on the other hand, it is a pleasing picture, I want the facts so that, in justice to labor, I may present the truth to the House and to the country."

Here is what Nelson replied:

"It is my firm belief that American labor has done a truly splendid job in war production. I do not see how anyone can look at the great volume of production that has been achieved since Pearl Harbor without realizing that labor has met its heavy responsibilities with real patriotism and determination. The important thing is that the job is being done.

"The production of arms and munitions since Pearl Harbor has substantially exceeded even the most optimistic expectations any of us had before this country got into war."

Nelson backed this statement with figures showing output of all categories of war materials "that is staggering in its immensity."

In presenting Nelson's letter to the House, Ludlow declared it should bring about two distinct and positive results:

1. "It should immediately put an end for all time to the unthinkable, un-American, totalitarian proposal to draft labor in the United States.

2. "It should be helpful in bringing about the repeal of the Smith-Connally Act and the wholly uncalled-for and unwarranted injustice which labor as a whole has had to suffer by the passage of that act."

Ludlow declared that Nelson has left advocates of the Austin-Wadsworth labor conscription proposal "without a leg to stand on." He added that the passage of the Smith-Connally Act "was a cruel, stinging insult to honest, patriotic labor, which has made a record of production beyond all comparison."

Unions Take a Look at "Glamorizing" Movies

Rail labor unions throughout the nation have gone into action to support the campaign launched jointly by labor, management and the government to lick the rail manpower shortage.

Chiefs of all the unions have sent out instructions to their general chairmen and officers of their locals to do all in their power to help make the drive a success. They did so in accord with an understanding that they would co-operate so long as the campaign is "conducted along the right lines."

Solicitation of Funds

However, says *Labor*, official publication of the railway unions, they were frankly disturbed when they learned of a scheme, hatched in the Office of Defense Transportation, under which managements are being solicited for funds to finance a film that would "glamorize" transportation jobs for women. The article in the unions' publication continues as follows:

Labor had at no time been consulted on the plan, and some union chieftains declared they didn't understand why the government had to go to the carriers for money for such a purpose. They pointed out, too, that the matter of recruiting women had to be handled with care; some jobs are highly hazardous and to invite women into them would be to endanger their lives.

Related Conference

O.D.T. spokesmen, when they learned of the "kick-back," hastened to make promises that a conference of union representatives would be called, and that the project would not be pushed unless approved. Union leaders said the O.D.T. would have done better to confer with labor in advance, and that they didn't like the idea of being consulted after plans were cut and dried.

Nonetheless, railroad labor will continue undiminished support of the manpower recruiting campaign, it was explained. In letters sent to their field staffs and officers of locals, the union chieftains stressed that one of the best means of obtaining the needed help is for each union member to solicit his friends, associates and relatives to go to work for the railroads.

GREEN ACCEPTS AIR LEAGUE POST

Thomas H. Beck, president of the Crowell-Collier Publishing Company and aviation enthusiast, announced that A.F.L. President William Green had accepted membership on the board of directors of the Civil Air Patrol League.

This league, indorsed by President Roosevelt, F.B.I. Director Hoover and Gen. H. H. Arnold, commanding officer of the Army Air Forces, seeks to develop continuing interest among young people over fifteen years in aviation and to afford them elementary training in that field. It is a national, non-partisan, non-profit organization.

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